

wish him continued success and prosperity, and thank him for the difference he has made in our community.

QUEEN ESTHER CHAPTER NO. 1,  
ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR,  
PRINCE HALL AFFILIATION  
CELEBRATES 125 YEARS

### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 1999*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate and celebrate the Queen Esther Chapter No. 1, Order of the Eastern Star, Prince Hall Affiliation, of the District of Columbia, on the occasion of its 125th birthday.

The Queen Esther Chapter No. 1, Order of the Eastern Star, Prince Hall Affiliation, is a female organization that is part of Free Masonry, and was the first Eastern Star Chapter for women of color. It is a nonprofit organization dedicated to community involvement and improvement, the provision of scholarships for our youth, support of our public schools, and service to the indigent. The chapter was organized in the home of its founder, Sister Georgiana Thomas, on December 1, 1874 by Brother Thornton A. Jackson, Pythagoras Lodge No. 9, F. and A.M., who received the Degree of Adoptive Rite of the Eastern Star from Brother C.B. Case, a deputy and agent of Robert McCoy, 33°, the Supreme Patron of the Rite of Adoption of the World. The chapter's first Worthy Matron was Sister Martha Welch and the first Worthy Patron was Brother Thornton A. Jackson.

In 1875, Pythagoras Lodge No. 9, F. and M. presented the chapter with its first badges, known as Rosettes, emblems of power, honor, and ability. W.P. Thornton A. Jackson wished the chapter success and prosperity, and admonished the members to wear the badges with dignity, keeping ever before them the memory of the five heroines, Adah, Ruth, Esther, Martha, and Electa. Queen Esther Chapter was under the complete directives of Pythagoras Lodge No. 9 from 1874 until 1892, when the Georgiana Thomas Grand Chapter was organized.

The history of Queen Esther Chapter is rich in tradition and honors. The first among them being Sister Georgiana Thomas, P.M., after whom the Georgiana Thomas Grand Chapter was named, Sister Marie I. Smith for whom the Marie I. Smith Court of Cyrenes was named, and Phyllis S. Byrd, P.M. who became P.G.W.M., P.I.G.M., and after whom the Phyllis S. Bird Youth Fraternity was named.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the Members of this body to join me in wishing the Queen Esther Chapter No. 1, Order of the Eastern Star, Prince Hall Affiliation, a future that is as glorious as its past.

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN MEMORY OF FR. ALCUIN  
MIKULANIS

### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 1999*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Father Alcuin Mikulanis, Associate Pastor of St. Stanislaus Church in Slavic Village.

Father Alcuin, as he was known to the many parishioners he served, had ministered in the Cleveland area since 1984. During these years, he was well known in the Polish community not only as a compassionate and dedicated Pastor, but also as an accomplished singer. In fact, he was frequently called to sing introductory prayers and benedictions at meetings and gatherings.

Fr. Alcuin was a man of many talents, and he shared them graciously with his parishioners in the several states where he served. For example, from 1958 to 1962, in addition to being Vocations Director of his Franciscan Province, he was Director of a Polish radio program entitled "Christ the King Hour." Recordings of Polish folk songs and Christmas carols from this program is still in high demand after 40 years. While serving as Chaplain at St. Joseph Hospital in Meridian, MS from 1963–1966, he was involved in the civil rights activities of the time.

In Ohio, he served as Chaplain of the Sisters of St. Joseph of the Third Order of St. Francis at Marymount Convent. Later, as Associate Pastor of the historic St. Stanislaus Church, he was able to focus directly on the Polish ministry of his new parish. Fr. Alcuin witnessed the completion of one of his dreams last year with the restoration of St. Stanislaus Church on its 125th anniversary as a parish.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in honoring the memory of Fr. Alcuin.

HONORING THE OAKLAND HIGH  
SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

### HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 1999*

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the accomplishments of a dedicated group of young men who worked together in the true spirit of sportsmanship to achieve a long-awaited goal.

The group is the Oakland High School football team of Murfreesboro, TN. The goal the team achieved is winning the State 5–A football championship this past season.

These men of Oakland High trained vigorously and played tirelessly. They deserve recognition for a job well done.

I congratulate each team member, head coach Marty Euerard, assistant coaches Donnie Webb, Lebron Ferguson, Mike Cantrell, Mark Burke, Joey Freeman, Chuck Swafford, Todd Williamson, managers Alicia Garcia, Laura Austin, Katie Wright, Amanda McDougal, Matt Bingham, trainer Mike Gross, video technician Brian Josey, the team doctors

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and school Principal Ken Nolan. I know they won't soon forget this milestone.

The players are true champions. They are Alvin McDermott, Jeremy Harrison, Dejuan Hathaway, Kendrick Roper, Decarlos Carneal, Roland Ogletree, Trey Mosby, James Smith, Robbie Knight, Wardell Alsup, Desmond Rhodes, Matt King, Victor Stevenson, Mark Drew, Colby Wright, B.J. Malone, Mario Lyles, Derrick Savannah, Tee Thompason, Aaron Wells, Freddie King, Cory Hixson, Chad Pfalmer, Mason Jones, Jamie Malletta, Jeff Weaver, Chris Counts, Gabriel Batten, Essex Johnson, Jeff Atkins, Greg Spray, Justin Hutchins, Chris Parrot, Newt Ealy, Jeremy Spivey, Josh Peay, Mitch Welborne, Tommy Lawwell, Jeff Harvey, Dustin Griswold, Troy Broughton, Brett Trott, Zach Hollins, Jay Adkins, Dustin Jones, and Luke Ferguson.

HONORING ROBSTOWN HIGH  
SCHOOL BAND

### HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 1999*

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to shine the light on a performance later this week on the west side of the Capitol. I would like to invite all of you and your staff to hear the Robstown High School Band from my hometown of Robstown, TX.

Many of you have heard me talk about my hometown. Robstown is the biggest little town in Texas. Robstown has given the community, the state and the nation much of which they can be proud. Some prominent politicians at the local, the state and the national level hail from this big little town.

Robstown has thrilled us with their state baseball titles. The Cottonpickers baseball team is consistently underrated by the opposition from the bigger, more affluent school districts.

This week, however, Robstown High School sends its band to entertain us on the lower west terrace of the U.S. Capitol on April 23 from 1:30 to 2:15. The 120 young people in the band will be in the area on an educational trip during which they will see the museums and monuments Washington has to offer.

I hope all my colleagues will join me in welcoming the Robstown High School band to the U.S. Capitol.

IN RECOGNITION OF RICHARD  
BEDARD

### HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 1999*

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Richard Bedard, who is retiring this year after nearly 38 years of service to the Worcester Public Schools.

Dick Bedard began his career where it counts the most—in the classroom, as a math and physics teacher. From there he moved into administrative positions, including Audio-visual Director, Director of Instructional Media, and, most recently School Plant Manager.